LEGO®BRICKS
Quirky Facts

- The name 'LEGO' is an abbreviation of the two Danish words "leg godt", meaning "play well"
- The LEGO Group was founded in 1932 by Ole Kirk Kristiansen. The company has passed from father to son and is now owned by Kjeld Kirk Kristiansen, a grandchild of the founder.
- Recently Topgear’s James May called for people to help build a LEGO house to live in, respondents lined up for 5 to 6 hours, it was a thought that took on a life of its own.
- Every facet of our lifestyle has been built, created, played with, re-designed and loved. At any time people are creating with LEGO in every corner of the world.
- Introduced in the United States in 1962, the first LEGO came in loose sets of bricks.
- LEGO has come a long way over the past almost 80 years, from a small carpenter’s workshop to the world’s fourth-largest manufacturer of toys.
- There are more than 900 million different ways of combining six eight-stud bricks of the same colour.
- The company has made 400 billion LEGO elements or 62 bricks for every person on the planet.
- If stacked on top of one another, the pieces would form 10 towers reaching all the way from the Earth to the Moon.
- The bricks produced today have the same bumps and holes, and can still interlock with those produced in 1958.
- The first mini-figures (or mini-figs) were released in 1978 for the Town, Space, and Castle play sets.
- When they were first created, LEGO decided that their happy faces should have only one color: yellow.
- 2.16 million LEGO elements are moulded every hour, or 36,000 per minute.
- The LEGO manufacturing process is so precise that only 18 out of 1 million LEGO bricks produced is considered defective.
- More than 400 million people around the world have played with LEGO bricks.
- 7 LEGO sets are sold by retailers every second around the world.
The LEGO bricks sold in one year would circle the world 5 times.

Lego bricks have been used in engineering and other technical fields to do real design and science.

In 2000, The British Association of Toy Retailers named the LEGO brick "Toy of the Century", beating the teddy bear, Barbie and Action Man.

According to an article in BusinessWeek in 2006, LEGO could be considered the world's No. 1 tire manufacturer; the factory produces about 306 million tiny rubber tires a year.

The largest number of bricks used in a single sculpture was 500 000 to make a 53-foot long and 15-foot high billboard on Sunset Boulevard in Hollywood.

A 30 000 brick sculpture takes 2 to 3 weeks to construct.